



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Applicant: Folker Beck

Examiner: Gertrude Arthur

Serial No.: 10/039,647

Filed: 7 January 2002

For: MONITORING DEVICE FOR A HARVESTING MACHINE

Group Art Unit 3661

(Atty. Ref. No. 9005-US)

Moline, IL 61265

12 June 2003

Response

The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated 31 March 2003, paper no. 8.

Remarks/Arguments

The examiner in an Office Action dated 31 March 2003 rejected all of the pending claims 1-22. As such, this Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered and this response is now presented in an effort to comply with Patent Office requirements and advance prosecution of the application.

The examiner rejected claims 1-22, under 35 USC 103, as being obvious over Behnke et al, in light of Missotten et al. Behnke et al discloses a sensor for a harvesting machine that detects "structure-borne sound vibrations generated by the impingement of grains on a pulse detector...". Missotten et al discloses a sensor for a harvesting machine that directly senses "the torque transmitted by a chain transmission upon a conveyor" Relying on the Missotten sensor being placed outside of the flow of crop material, the examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Behnke et al in light of Missotten et al, and place the Behnke sensor outside of the flow of the crop material to form the claimed invention.

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